### Meeting with Commercial Users of Passaic River Navigation Channel

August 27, 2009

### **Agenda**

- Overview of Lower Passaic River Clean Up
  - Focused Feasibility Study: Alternatives for Clean Up
  - 2008 Commercial Navigation Analysis
- Discussion
  - How are you currently using the Passaic River navigation channel?
  - How do you plan to operate in the future?

### Overview

- Study Area: 17-mile tidal Passaic River from Newark Bay to Dundee Dam
- Partner Agencies: EPA,
   USACE, NJDEP, NOAA,
   USFWS, and NJDOT
- For Superfund: 73
   potentially responsible
   parties.



### Focused Feasibility Study (FFS)

- Sediments of lower 8 miles
- Alternatives being considered are all bank-to-bank



### **Current Alternatives**

#	<b>Alternative</b> <sup>a</sup>	Dredged Sediment Volume (MCY)	Cost in Billion \$ <sup>b</sup>
1	No Action	0	Minimal
2	Deep Dredging with Backfill	11	1.3 to 3.7
3	Capping with Dredging for Flooding & Navigation	3.4	0.8 to 2.0

#### Notes:

a: All alternatives cause no additional flooding.

b: Costs depend on dredged materials management method

# Capping Conceptual Design

- Sand (2 ft.)
- In small fraction of area: Armor (2 ft.)& "smoothing layer"
- Dredge for
  - Flooding and
  - "Reasonably Anticipated Future Use"



## Conceptual Design: Navigation in Capping Alternative

	Average Current Depths in Channel (ft MLW)	Capping Alternative		
River Mile		Range of Depths to Top of Cap in Channel (ft MLW)	Channel Width (ft)	Channel Maintenance Planned
0-1.2	19	31	300	√ (30 ft auth)
1.2-1.9	15	19	300	√ (16 ft auth)
1.9-2.5	15	13-20	200	
2.5-3.6	12	11-13	200	
3.6-4.6	12	10-15	200	
4.6-8	13	10-20	200	

<sup>\*</sup>RM 1.9 to 8: Channel will not be shallower than it is now (without consideration of future deposition).

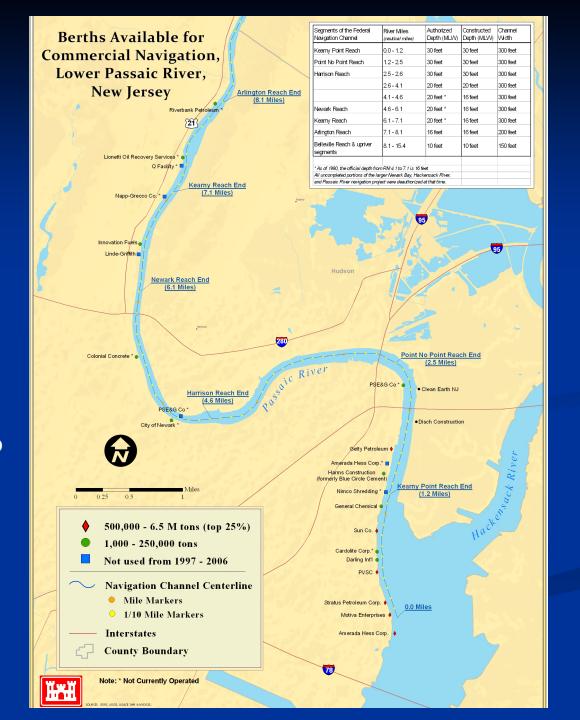
### **Next Steps**

- Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) being revised.
  - Evaluates alternatives
- Proposed Plan for public comment.
  - Proposes a preferred alternative
  - 60-day public comment period
- Record of Decision

# **Current Navigational Use**

#### Berth by Berth Analysis

- ■Current commercial navigation in lower 1.7 miles and most recently to RM 6.5.
- Potential future use up to RM 2.3.
- Channel depth modification may be needed based on selected USEPA remedial actions.



### **Discussion**

- How are you currently using the Passaic River navigation channel?
  - Discuss any physical constraints that limit how you are operating.

### Discussion

- How do you expect to operate in the future?
  - How would you operate if conditions stayed the same as they are now?
  - How would you operate if the channel were deeper?
  - Are there facility/infrastructure changes, operational modifications or other investments you would need to make in order to operate in a deeper channel?
  - If so, how likely is it that you will be able to make these investments in the short term (2-5 years)? In the longer term (5+ years)?